



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

# USAID MINING INVESTMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FOR AFGHAN SUSTAINABILITY (MIDAS)

ANNUAL AO AND IR LEVEL REPORT  
1 OCTOBER 2014 - 30 SEPTEMBER 2015



**Contract Number: AID-306-TO-13-00003**

**30 November 2016**

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development. It was prepared by ECC Water & Power LLC.

# Table of Contents

<b>List of Acronyms.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Project Objectiv.....</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Project Objective.....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>I. Introduction .....</b>	<b>4</b>
I.1 Project Objectives .....	4
I.2 Component I - Reform the Legal and Regulatory Regime of the Extractive Sector .....	4
I.3 Component II - Build Capacity of MoMP to Determine the Value of Natural Resources	5
<b>2. Terms of reference.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3. MIDAS Results Framework .....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4. ANNUAL PROGRESS SUMMARY .....</b>	<b>9</b>
I. Component I: Reform the Legal and Regulatory Regime of the Extractives Sector.....	9
II. Component II - Build Capacity of MoMP to Determine the Value of Natural Resources .....	11
III. Component III - Mining-Related Enterprise Development .....	14
<b>5. Progress against Key Performance Indicators.....</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>6. Summary of Key Performance Indicators Achieved.....</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>7. Challenges and Constraints .....</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>8. Lessons Learned.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Annex I: LIST OF DELIVERABLES FY 2015 .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>ANNEX II: KEY ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED DURING FY 2015.....</b>	<b>25</b>

## DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.

## LIST OF ACRONYMS

ABA	Afghanistan Bank Association
ACOR	Alternate Contracting Officer's Representative
AEITI	Afghanistan Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative
AGS	Afghanistan Geological Survey
AMEI	Afghanistan Mining Enterprise Initiative
AO	Assistance Objective
CO	Contracting Officer
COP	Chief of Party
COR	Contracting Officer's Representative
DAB	Da Afghanistan Bank
DO	Development Objectives
FAIDA	Financial Access for Investing in the Development of Afghanistan
E-WP	ECC Water & Power LLC
FY	Fiscal Year
GIRoA	Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
GIS	Geographic Information System
GPS	Global Positioning System
IR	Intermediate Results
IP	Implementing Partner
ISLP	International Senior Lawyers Project
MIDAS	Mining Investment and Development for Afghan Sustainability
MoMP	Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (formerly Ministry of Mines)
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
MSG	Multi-Stakeholder Group
PMP	Performance Management Plan
PSU	Project Support Unit
RF	Result Framework
TL	Team Leader
TO	Task Order
TOR	Term of Reference
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USA	United States of America
USG	United State Government

## PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The objective of the USAID MIDAS project is to support the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan to efficiently and responsibly develop the mining sector. The project is divided into three components. The first component focuses on developing the legal and policy framework for the mining sector. The second component focuses on mineral exploration and capacity building for the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) and the Afghan Geological Survey (AGS). The third component focuses on private sector development to foster a strong enabling environment for small and medium-sized Afghan enterprises in the extractives industry.

Contract Information	
Project Title	Mining Investment and Development for Afghan Sustainability (MIDAS)
USAID Contract Number	AID-306-TO-13-00003
Contracting Officer's Representative (COR)	Khalid Ludin
Contracting Officer	Greg Wang
Current Period of Performance	October 2014 – September 2015
Prime Contractor	ECC Water and Power LLC
Sub-Contractors	Flag International, Kiron Global Strategies, Sheladia Associates

# I. INTRODUCTION

The Mining Investment and Development for Afghan Sustainability (MIDAS) project provides technical assistance to the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) to transform itself into the regulatory body for the extractives sector of Afghanistan. Some steps toward this transformation have already been undertaken, but to secure the progress achieved and to further strengthen the shift of the MoMP away from its former role as a Soviet-style monopoly in the sector, more work needs to be done.

The essence of this work will be to assist Ministry in opening the extractive sector to private investment while focusing MoMP's attention on how to monitor the activities of those private firms—both large and small—to exact a safe working environment, sound environmental protection, sensible community development, and maximization of revenues for the people of Afghanistan.

## I.1 Project Objectives

- Reforming Extractive Sector Policy and Regulations
- Strengthen Capacity at MoMP

Both objectives are in line with USAID Forward to promote sustainable development through high-impact partnerships and local solutions.

The project is consistent with the U.S. Economic Transition Strategy for Afghanistan which states that sustainable macroeconomic and fiscal policies, strengthened governance, capacity, and economic structure are major pillars that support growth, and if left unaddressed will constrain growth. Strong economic governance and an improved enabling environment has the potential to transform all economic sectors, to increase private sector investment and job creation, and to enhance Afghan government revenue.

The Terms of Reference (TOR) were defined by USAID in Task Order AID-306-TO-13-00003 and define the structure of the multi-year MIDAS project.

The general Scope of Work required has been divided into three components, each of which is designed to produce specific results while contributing to the overall project purpose:

## I.2 Component I - Reform the Legal and Regulatory Regime of the Extractive Sector

With the support of the MIDAS project, the Ministry has adopted new legislative instruments for the extractives sector over the past three (3) years that have helped to begin the transformation of the MoMP into a regulatory body for the extractive sector that promotes investor-friendly resource development in Afghanistan. However, the efforts are not yet complete. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA) must continue to press for reform in these regards and continue to fine-tune its legal and regulatory provisions, among many others, on royalty, tax, environmental and licensing matters as well as implementing procedures in the extractive sector. The entire legal and regulatory framework for the extractive sector should be aligned with world-class standards. MIDAS Component I will provide technical assistance to MoMP to continue its effort to bring the legal and regulatory regime of its extractive sector into alignment with international norms for such sectors.

**Result 1.1:** Legislation and a regulatory framework, including internal procedures, that establishes MoMP as the primary regulatory authority for the extractive sector, and which promotes business activities and revenue generation by being better aligned with international norms for national extractive sectors.

**Result 1.2:** Substantial progress toward establishing a legal and regulatory regime, including internal procedures, for the extractive sector which encourages domestic and foreign investment in the extractive sector and ensures appropriate financial gains, rights and protections for GIRoA and the people of Afghanistan.

**Result 1.3:** Develop the legal capacity of MoMP such that it will be more self-sufficient in the future regulation of the extractive sector, including in the areas of licensing, contracting, enforcement, dispute settlement, and revenue management.

### **1.3 Component II - Build Capacity of MoMP to Determine the Value of Natural Resources**

The MIDAS project has worked to expand the capacity of the MoMP to conduct resource, financial, economic, and policy analyses for the development of the extractive industries in Afghanistan. The team has worked to create databases, industry-standard documentation, and promotional materials aimed at attracting private investment in the mining sector. Capacity building has also focused on contracts management, procurement, and strategic planning.

Assistance has also been provided to enhance the capacity of the Afghan Geological Survey (AGS).

In light of the global collapse in commodity prices during 2015 and the resulting curtailment of exploration and development activities worldwide, technical support and advisory services to the AGS were provided by a small, streamlined specialty group working in the following areas: (1) consolidating AGS technical data scattered around the agency into a single location, accessible by domestic and international investors; (2) providing geophysical GIS training and capacity development to provincial MoMP and AGS offices and staff; (3) technical advisory and capacity Development Service to AGS Geophysics team; (4) training of Top AGS field Geologists; and (5) developing mineral commodity information packages for the Ministry.

**Result 2.1:** Capacity throughout MoMP to develop, promote and manage tenders for domestic and international investors developed.

**Result 2.2:** Capacity to efficiently allocate, disburse and manage development assistance as well as appropriately manage the revenues that the extractives sector will produce.

### **1.4 Component III – Mining-Related Enterprise Development**

Component 3 provides technical assistance to improve the services of Afghan small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in geo-science and consulting work related to the extractives sector. It introduces Afghan SMEs to new market opportunities in the mining value chain, and ensures that local communities benefit and are included in the planning process. It facilitates the creation of jobs directly and indirectly from mining sector investments and activities. Component 3 also facilitates communication between the different stakeholders and engages communities living near mining sites to ensure they are also included in the planning process.

## **2. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

This report serves as the annual assistance objective level report for the Mining Investment and Development for Afghanistan Sustainability (MIDAS) project. As per the task order agreement, MIDAS is required to provide report to USAID in accordance with AIDAR clause 752.242-70 and the annual report is required as per the section – F, subsection A “Annual AO and IR Level Results Report”:

*The Contractor shall submit a draft annual Assistance Objective (AO) and Intermediate Results (IR) level results report describing contract progress using the Performance Monitoring and Evaluation System and the numerical targets established in this Task Order. This report shall be submitted in draft to the TOCOR by an agreed-upon date that allows sufficient time for it to be used in preparing the Mission's annual report. The TOCOR will provide comments within 15 calendar days, and the Contractor shall then submit a final draft to the TOCOR for approval within 15 calendar days of receipt of the TOCOR's comments.*

### **3. MIDAS RESULTS FRAMEWORK**

(Linked to USAID Country Development Cooperation Strategy)

The Results Framework is a guide to the project activities required to accomplish intended results. It is a necessary foundation for work planning, performance monitoring, and quality assurance. The results framework maps out project activities designed to achieve USAID's higher-level Development Objectives (DOs) stated in the Mission-wide USAID Afghanistan Results Framework M&E Plan, and to contribute to its short and long-term results. It is an important management and learning tool for the technical team.

MIDAS contributes to two of USAID/Afghanistan's DOs:

**DO1: Sustainable Agriculture-led Economic Growth expanded**

**DO3: Performance and Legitimacy of GIROA Improved.**

Intermediate Results (IRs) 1.1, 1.2 and 3.2 were chosen to monitor the achievement of these DOs.

MIDAS Component One, which is focused on reforming mining policy and regulations, is linked to Sub IR 3.2.2 (Policies and Procedures improved) of the USAID Afghanistan results framework. Component Two, which is focused on capacity building of government employees in the mining sector, is linked to Sub IRs 1.2.4 (Natural Resource Management practice Improved) of the USAID Afghanistan results framework. Component Three, which is focused on enterprise development and community awareness in the mining sector, is linked to Sub IR 1.1.3 (Competitiveness of Business and Entrepreneurs Increased) of the USAID Afghanistan results framework.

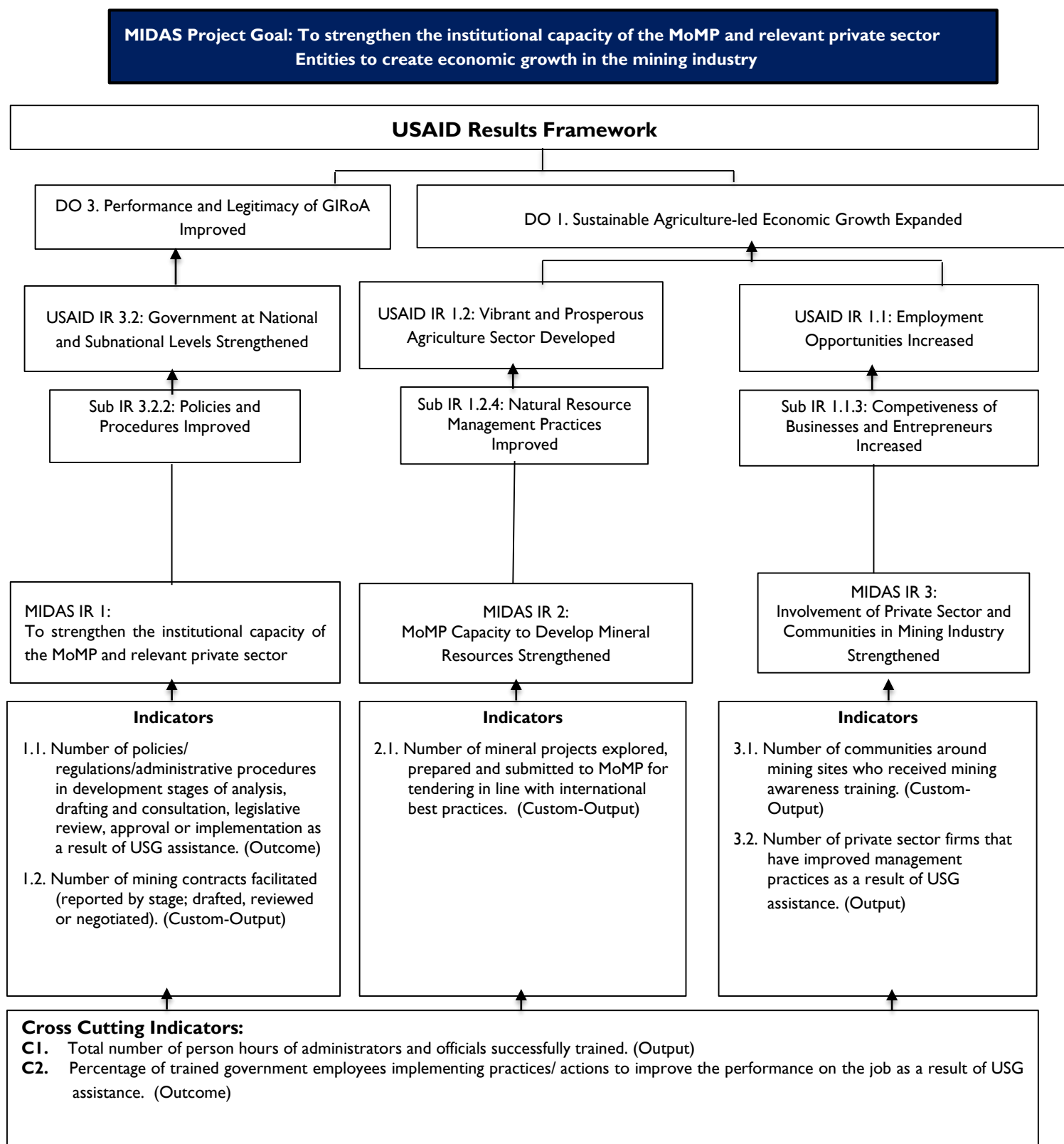
The indicators chosen are meaningful, necessary, and sufficient. They will accurately verify and measure results of the project in line with ADS 203 requirements.

Moreover, this annual report provides progress against pre-defined targets that were selected during the development of the M&E Plan (PMP). The MIDAS M&E Plan did not receive approval by USAID for FY 2015. Therefore, MIDAS developed a new M&E plan, approved on July 31, 2016, and MIDAS has implemented project activities in line with the project M&E Plan and indicators.

As part of the project M&E Plan, MIDAS has also developed a comprehensive Results Framework (RF) that precisely corresponds to the USAID Assistance Objectives, Intermediate Results and subsequent sub-intermediate results. The indicators developed are also based on these objectives. Moreover, two MIDAS indicators are drawn from the standard indicators' list of USAID and five other MIDAS indicators are custom-made indicators that specifically fall under the MIDAS components' activities.

*The MIDAS Results Framework is illustrated in Figure 1 on the following page.*

**Figure 1: MIDAS Results Framework**





**Figure 2: List of indicators**

#	PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	Is this a standard Indicator	Unit of Measures	Disaggregated by	Data source	Reporting Frequency	Type of Indicator
<b>Component 1: Reforming Mining Law and Regulation</b>							
1.1	Number of policies/regulations/administrative procedures in development stages of analysis, drafting and consultation, legislative review, approval or implementation as a result of USG assistance.	Yes	Number	Stages-Analysis, drafts, completed, implemented	MoMP and IP	Annual	Outcome
1.2.	Number of mining contracts facilitated (reported by stage; drafted, reviewed or negotiated).	No	Number	Drafted, Reviewed or Negotiated	MoMP and IP	Quarterly	Output
<b>Component 2: Strengthening Capacity at the MoMP</b>							
2.1.	Number of mineral projects explored, prepared and submitted to MoMP for tendering in line with international best practices.	No	Number	Type of Mineral Contract	MoMP, AGS and IP	Quarterly	Output
<b>Component 3: Supporting the Private Sector and Mining Project Development</b>							
3.1.	Number of communities around mining sites who received mining awareness training.	No	Number	Number of Communities	MoMP and IP	Quarterly	Output
3.2.	Number of private sector firms that have improved management practices as a result of USG assistance.	No	Number	Number of private sector	MoMP, IP and attendance sheets	Quarterly	Output
<b>Cross Cutting Indicators</b>							
C1.	Total number of person hours of administrators and officials successfully trained. (Output)	Yes	Number	Number of males, females, type of training, and component	MoMP, IP and attendance sheets of participants.	Quarterly	Output
C2.	Percentage of government employees implementing practices/actions to improve the performance on the job as a result of USG assistance. (Outcome)	No	Percent	Male / Female	MoMP, IP and attendance sheets of participants.	Quarterly	Outcome

## 4. ANNUAL PROGRESS SUMMARY

**Capacity-Building Results for MoMP and AGS Officials.** MIDAS Component I, II and III provided 42 trainings that provided 7,145 person hours of trainings on different topics for MoMP and AGS technical staff during FY2015. Capacity building of MoMP and AGS staff is a key function for MIDAS all Components. MIDAS put strong focus on strengthening capacity within MoMP and AGS during period of the project.

### I. Component I: Reform the Legal and Regulatory Regime of the Extractives Sector.

MIDAS Component I implemented a number of activities, and produced valuable and tangible results that include:

**1) Unparalleled Study Tour to USA for Mines Minister and Other High-level Officials.** In May 2015, MIDAS advisors led Dr. Daud Saba, the Minister of Mines and Petroleum, on a USAID-funded 11-day study tour focused on international best practices for mining, processing, reclamation as well as health and safety regulations of mining operations. The group met lawyers from one of the world's best law schools, visited some of the most modern and efficient mines on earth, and met some of the most experienced regulators in the industry. A tour of this scope and magnitude as well as the caliber of US experts involved is an unprecedented level of access for an Afghan government official. This is truly a great success for both nations. During the tour, MIDAS advisors accompanied Minister Saba to the following visits:

- *Washington, DC: Meeting with Donors, NGOs and US Government Agencies.*
- *New York City: Columbia Law School to Support Mining Contract Review.*
- *Henderson Underground Mine and Colorado School of Mines (CSM), west of Denver.*
- *Colorado Division of Reclamation, Mining and Safety (CDRMS) in Denver.*
- *Cripple Creek & Victor (CC&V) Gold Mine in Cripple Creek, west of Colorado Springs.*
- *Coal Bed Methane (CBM) Production Facilities in Durango, Colorado.*
- *Morenci Copper Mine Complex in central Arizona.*
- *Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Training Center in Phoenix, Arizona.*

**2) Study Tour Improved Afghanistan's Mining Industry.** The MIDAS-led Legal Study tour has already impacted the way the government manages the mining industry. A few Members of Parliament who attended the study tour stood in the face of great opposition to stop a proposed amendment to the 2014 Mining Law that would have stripped local communities of any rights to mineral royalties.

**3) Entire Ministry Educated on New Mining Law.** Over 330 people from every department of MoMP and the Afghanistan Geological Survey were educated on the new Mining Law during 2014. MIDAS held six training sessions on new Minerals Law in partnership with the MoMP Legal Directorate. The sessions were part of a series to inform central and provincial employees of the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum about the terms and provisions of the new Minerals Law. The goal was to empower them to better perform their duties under the new Law.

- **Hands-on Legal Compliance Mentoring.** Passing a new law is a challenge in any country. Enforcing the law can be even harder. The MoMP is responsible for enforcement of the mining law and MIDAS advisors are working to improve the capacity of MoMP officials in this critical area. A MIDAS advisor supported MoMP lawyers to investigate a suspected case of unlicensed lapis mining in Badakshan where 37 trucks were seized when found to be carrying illegally mined minerals.

- 4) **Model Mining Contract and Application Packages Will Save Hundreds of Days Per Year.** MIDAS advisors supported the MoMP Legal Directorate to draft applications materials for several mineral commodities including quarry and construction materials, precious and semi-precious stones and marble, and small-scale and artisanal mining. The packages can now be used for relevant contracts. Standardizing the process for contracting with the government will save time and reduce unnecessary bureaucracy. It is estimated that the model application process will reduce the total application time by one to three days per contract. Given that the ministry processes more than 100 contracts each year, hundreds of days will be saved and many more contracts will be processed.
- **Model Application Package for Sand, Gravel, and Construction Materials Approved.** The application package confirmed by the technical committee of MoMP and approved by the Minister of Mines. Accordingly, the application can be distributed by the Cadastre Directorate and used by any firm applying for such a contract with the MoMP.
  - **Model Application Package for Artisanal Mining Complete.** The package approved by the MoMP.
  - **Model Contract for Small-Scale Mining Complete.** The model contract has been completed and reviewed by various departments within the Ministry. The model contract created based on international best practices and in compliance with the new mineral law.
- 5) **Top American Lawyers Train Ministry on Contract Negotiations in Istanbul.** Nine legal advisors from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) participated in a four-day training on mineral contract review and negotiations in Istanbul. Top legal instructors from Columbia University, the University of Denver, and the International Senior Lawyers Project (ISLP) delivered the training. MoMP legal advisors role-played a private company negotiating with the government. Understanding a firm's position will put them in a stronger position to negotiate contracts with international investors. In particular, these trainings helped the firm during its negotiations for the Aynak copper project.
- 6) **The Oil and Gas Downstream Draft Law Reviewed.** MIDAS legal advisors reviewed the Oil and Gas downstream draft law which has recently been sent by the Ministry of Commerce for review and comment to MoMP. The draft law is intended to manage downstream Oil & Gas operations and to regulate the licensing process within the Ministry of Commerce.
- 7) **Drafted, Reviewed and Negotiated on MoMP Contracts.** MIDAS legal advisors supported the MoMP Legal Directorate to draft, review, and negotiate on MoMP' contracts. They drafted five new contracts, reviewed three contract and negotiated on two contracts during this reporting period. The below is the list of contract the MIDAS worked on.
1. Amu Darya Tender- Toti Maidan Block Petroleum Contract Reviewed.
  2. Marble Exploitation Contract Reviewed.
  3. Jabal Saraj Cement Contract Reviewed.
  4. Jabal Saraj Cement Contract Negotiated.
  5. Precious and Semi-Precious Stones Contract Drafted.
  6. Model Mining Contract Drafted.
  7. Marble Exploitation Contract Drafted.
  8. Model Contract for Small-Scale Mining Drafted.
  9. Herat Cement Bidding Package (Include Contract) Drafted.
  10. Toti Maidan Petroleum Contract Re-negotiated.

- 8) **MIDAS Takes Part in Negotiations on Jabal Saraj Cement Contract.** A MIDAS legal advisor discussed the mark-ups made in the cement contract which were agreed by both parties during the second round of negotiations. The advisors confirmed that everything was properly addressed in the contract. A third round of negotiations on a government cement contract was held with Logo Company. A MIDAS legal advisor reviewed the final draft of contract and shared his comments with the Legal Director of MoMP.
- 9) **Amu Darya Tender-TOTIMAIDAN Block Petroleum Contract Reviewed.** A MIDAS legal advisor reviewed Amu Darya Tender-TOTIMAIDAN Block petroleum contract. Comments and feedback were shared with the Afghanistan Petroleum Authority to be shared with the contractor and incorporated into the contract.
- 10) **Reviewing Tariffs and Surface Rents in the Mining Sector.** At the request of the MoMP, MIDAS legal advisors reviewed some fiscal aspects of the mining sector, including:
- **Revision of Fees and Surface Rents.** An analysis of the fees and surface rents charged by mining agencies in international jurisdictions was undertaken with the goal of making Afghanistan's fee and rents competitive with international standards.
  - **Analyzing Marble Tariffs.** Afghanistan's new administration intends to review the fiscal terms under which the nation's minerals are licensed. In support of that effort, the Ministry has begun analyzing the tariffs relating to Marble. A MIDAS advisor was asked to participate on the review committee.
- 11) **Development of Agreement between Afghanistan and Azerbaijan.** MIDAS legal advisors assisted in the development of an agreement between Afghanistan and Azerbaijan to cooperate in a variety of areas related to mining and petroleum. The agreement followed a recent meeting between President Ashraf Ghani and a delegation from Azerbaijan. The Ministry of Mines and Petroleum signed four memorandum of understandings (MoUs) with Azerbaijan concerning a Steel plant, as well as facilities for Urea, Cement and Petroleum. MIDAS advisors assisted the MoMP to develop the MoUs.
- 12) **Development of Regulations Move Forward.** MIDAS legal advisors worked to draft, review and complete extensively on the development of MoMP regulations for the 2014 -2015 Minerals Law. These include regulations on Health and Safety Regulation, Technical Regulation, Financial Regulation, Contract Oversight Regulation and Mining Contracts Bidding Regulation.

## **II. Component II - Build Capacity of MoMP to Determine the Value of Natural Resources**

Component 2 provides technical assistance to develop MoMP and AGS expertise in geo-science field investigation and drilling activities; data analysis and management to verify the location and quantity of mineral deposits; and evaluate and package mineral tenders for bidding by international investors. The component also includes on-budget funding, provided directly to the MoMP for equipment and services to develop the mining industry. MIDAS has three offices at the MoMP and two at the AGS, and works closely with senior ministry officials.

MIDAS Component II implemented a number of activities, and produced valuable and tangible results that include:

- 1) **First USAID Drilling Project “Shirbatu Granite” in Bamiyan Province Completed.** MIDAS broke new ground this year, launching the first mineral drilling project in the history of USAID. A granite core-drilling exploration exercise kicked off at Shirbatu in what hoped to be the first of many successful future mining tenders for the Afghan government. Modern core drilling machines were hauled to the drilling site, at elevations of over 9,600 feet. Three holes were drilled for a combined depth of 230.5 m. The program aims to determine the quality of a granite deposit, and its suitability for value-added processing (granite slabs, tile and counter-tops). Following analysis, MIDAS advisors supported officials from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) to tender the area for mining. The MIDAS project was created to increase investment in Afghanistan’s mining sector. The granite tender to be produced as a result of this exploration works put Afghanistan on the path towards increased economic growth. The Shirbatu project is the first of three planned drilling projects for 2015. MIDAS advisors are working diligently with the MoMP to identify the two additional sites for exploration drilling.
- 2) **Shirbatu Granite Data Being Compiled into NI 43-101 Technical Report.** MIDAS and AGS geologists worked to compile data and drilling results from the Shirbatu Granite Project into a NI 43-101 Technical Report. The technical document outline was completed. The information describing the Shirbatu area’s location, access, infrastructure, geologic setting (local and regional), and lithostratigraphy has been completed. Work continues to complete the data on the actual drilling work, core logging, sampling and other exploration activities. The report is expected to be finalized in the next year. A MIDAS advisor also developed a presentation on the Bamiyan granite project for the Acting AGS Director that was delivered at the International Hindu-Kush Geo-Sciences conference held at Kabul Polytechnic University from September 29-30, 2015.
- **AGS Lab Techs Prepare Samples for Granite Tender.** A MIDAS advisor mentored three lab technicians at the Afghanistan Geological Survey on processing of rock samples collected from the Salang and Shirbatu projects. Sample processing involves crushing, pulverizing, splitting, and XRF analysis of the samples.
- 3) **Three-Month Mineral Exploration Program at Salang Culminates in Completion of Trenching and Mapping of Tantalum Area of Interest.** MIDAS advisors and the Topography and Industrial Minerals teams from the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) wrapped up a three-month mineral exploration program at the Salang Valley in search for tantalum mineralization. The following activities were achieved:
- a. 91 samples collected
  - b. 24 trenches dug
  - c. 0.5 km<sup>2</sup> area mapped

The topographic map was used as a base map in the subsequent geological mapping to identify the potential locations of tantalum mineralization. MIDAS geologists provided training on MicroMine and ArcGIS software to plot the nearly 500 data points collected by the AGS team this quarter. The end goal is to produce a tender for private companies to bid on and explore for a tantalum deposit. A total of 12 mineral exploration trips were conducted in three provinces during 2014.

Prior work by the Afghanistan Geological Survey and the Soviets in the 1970s, showed evidence of a potential Tantalum deposit of about 500 tons. Tantalum in its pure form is currently valued at about US\$180,000 per ton. This goal is to produce a tender for mining the project.

- **Female Geologists Travel to the Field for First Time in 30 Years.** On November 12th, and for the first time in over 30 years, two Afghan females, a geologist and a mining engineer joined their AGS peers in conducting geologic mapping and collecting samples at Salang. MIDAS intern Fatima is working towards her Master's degree in geology; MIDAS mining engineer Roqiya Karimi, a graduate of Kabul Polytechnic Institute, is one of Afghanistan's first female mining engineers. The site was also visited by the Parwan Provincial Governor, the head of the MoMP Provincial Directorate, and local TV media.

**4) Salang Valley Site Samples Analyzed.** Thirty-five samples gathered from the Salang Valley Tantalum site were analyzed and the results do not justify the planned \$2 million drilling program. The initial XRF (X-Ray Fluorescence) analysis conducted earlier this year showed Tantalum in 33 of 35 trenching samples taken in the same areas where prior Soviet work reported high grades of tantalum. But when the same 35 samples were re-assayed with the more precise method of ICP (Inductively Coupled Plasma) the samples revealed significantly lower values, which, in the judgment of MIDAS advisors, do not justify the previously-planned \$2 million drilling program. The XRF analysis was undertaken by an ISO-certified laboratory based in Kabul while the ICP analysis was commissioned to an overseas laboratory based in Jakarta, Indonesia.

While the site was not economic, the training mission with AGS geologists and engineers will be invaluable for future mineral reconnaissance missions. The team learned to gather GPS coordinates and to create topographic and geological maps using state-of-the-art equipment. The team also gained valuable experience in on-site trenching, sample preparation and petrography analysis.

**5) Topographic Map Produced of Salang Area of Interest.** The AGS Topographic Map Team produced a map of a half-kilometer squared area at a scale of 1:2000 showing contour elevations at 5-meter intervals, much more in-depth than any existing maps (developed during the 1960s and 1970s, typically with 50-meter contour intervals). After gathering the data, using state-of-the-art equipment donated by the USGS several years ago that had never been unpacked, the topography team worked closely with USAID-MIDAS advisors. Each team created a map and compared results. The discrepancies were corrected and an accurate topographic map was created for the area of interest.

The AGS Topographical Mapping Field Team is now able to precisely produce high quality topographic maps.

The new topographic map was used as a base map in the subsequent geological mapping to identify the potential locations of tantalum mineralization. MIDAS geologists provided the training on MicroMine and ArcGIS software to plot the nearly 500 data points collected by the AGS team this quarter.

**6) Herat Reconnaissance Trip for Completed.** A week-long trip to Herat Province was completed to examine three potential mineral deposits including Sangilyan Barite, Char Olang Gypsum, and a limestone occurrence near the Herat airport. The mission was undertaken by MIDAS geologists to identify new exploration targets. Barite is in high demand for the oil and gas exploration industry worldwide. Used as a weighing agent when drilling for natural gas and oil, Barite allows drill bits to adjust to the pressure of different rock formations and prevents blowouts. Thus, drill bits last longer and drill holes can be completed faster. At an international market rate of \$109-\$160 per ton, the prospect could attract strong interest in both foreign and domestic investment.

- 7) Field-Based Digital Mapping Training in Takhar Saves Months of Process Time.** A MIDAS GIS Specialist undertook a 12-day (August 18-29) practical training for the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) Construction Team working in Takhar Province on data capture, digital mapping and cross section generation. The construction team of Takhar Geological Survey Department surveys the location of the raw materials deposits such as gypsum and limestone. Before the training, the team was forced to send the data to the MoMP in Kabul for processing into digital maps. The process would take months of official letters and follow-up to complete. Now they can complete maps on their own in just a few days. This will save months of processing time each year and will allow the team to explore for more mineral deposits.
- 8) MoMP Internship Program Fills Gaps in Ministry.** The MIDAS-funded internship program has supported fifteen interns in the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum. The interns supported the Legal, Policy, Executive, Hydrocarbon Sector and Mineral Sector Development Directorates. This program provided the opportunity for recent university graduates to gain working experience in the civil service and provide fresh skills and outlook to the ministry.
- 9) Afghanistan Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (AEITI) Conference.** A MIDAS adviser to the MoMP was delegated to attend the two-day AEITI conference in Dubai from February 14-15, 2015. The meeting focused on an action plan for 2015-17, and Afghanistan's pending application for AEITI membership. A fourth reconciliation report is being prepared on the status of the Ministry to meet EITI benchmarks such as publicly producing reports on mineral activities.
- 10) Honors for Government Geologists.** Eight months of exploration field training on mineral sampling, mapping, ArcGIS, and mineral economics culminated on April 1 at the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) where 55 AGS geologists, engineers and other employees were awarded training certificates from the USAID-MIDAS project. Each field team that accompanied MIDAS advisors on mineral reconnaissance trips to Panjshir, Bamiyan, and Parwan were recognized, as well as the employees who completed the first session of the ArcGIS training held in 2014.
- 11) Panjshir Reconnaissance Trip Completed.** A MIDAS mineral exploration team spent one day at the Arif Valley gold-silver-copper area of interest in the Paryan District of Panjshir Province. This Arif Valley project was investigated by AGS geologists in 2010, 2011 and 2012 for regional and semi-detailed geological mapping, sampling and trenching. The AGS team visited the area again in 2014 with MIDAS geologists to collect further samples. The results from previous AGS exploration work showed multiple low gold values and elevated silver. The area is also known for copper, lead and zinc mineralization.
- 12) Two Months of Geophysics Training in Samangan Province.** On the request of the AGS and MoMP, a MIDAS geologist advisor accompanied the AGS Geophysics Team in Samangan Province to manage the field activities as well as train them in ground geophysics. The field program that was held from July 21-August 31 involved practical exercise. The MIDAS advisor taught the AGS Geophysics Team everything from setting up geophysical survey equipment to gathering measurements.
- 13) Technical Advisory Services to MoMP.** MIDAS international and national advisors have regularly provided on-demand technical support to MoMP and AGS directorates.

### III. Component III - Mining-Related Enterprise Development

Component 3 provides technical assistance to improve the services of Afghan SMEs in geo-science, construction, transportation and consulting work related to the extractives sector. It introduces Afghan SMEs to new market opportunities in the mining value chain, and ensures that local communities benefit and are included in the planning process. It facilitates the creation of jobs directly and indirectly from mining sector investments and activities. Component 3 also facilitates communication between the different stakeholders and engages communities living near mining sites to ensure they are also included in the planning process.

MIDAS Component III implemented a number of activities, and produced valuable and tangible results that include:

**1) Afghan Mining Enterprise Initiative (AMEI) Training Program Concludes Following 17 Training Sessions.** On March 10, the second round of the Afghan Mining Enterprise Initiative (AMEI) was launched at the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) for 25 small business owners and government officials from the MoMP. Utilizing Afghan businesses to support mines will multiply by many times the jobs and economic growth created from mine developments. The core objective of the Program is to deploy a consulting program to accelerate the capacities of selected small and medium-sized (SME) geo-technical companies in the nascent Afghan mining sector.

MIDAS conducted a number of trainings for Afghan Mining Enterprise Initiative (AMEI) Mentorship Program listed below. MIDAS advisors trained the Afghan-owned small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) of the AMEI on marketing, business plans, accounting, financial controls, the tendering process, and budgeting. All of these activities are essential for running an efficient business and for winning new contracts in the extractives industry.

1. *Improving Bid Proposal Development.*
2. *Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) and Business & Human Rights.*
3. *Workshop on Mining Law and Tendering Process with MoMP.*
4. *Marketing Strategy.*
5. *Business Plan Development.*
6. *Basic Accounting and Internal Controls.*
7. *Basic Budgeting.*
8. *In-House Business Review and Training for Geosciences.*
9. *Improve service delivery.*
10. *Some pitfalls in management.*
11. *Brand development.*
12. *new service development.*
13. *Communications.*
14. *How to bid on contracts and win.*
15. *Financial management.*
16. *Human resourcesand.*
17. *Mapping and GPS*

MIDAS also conducted several mentoring sessions on the firms' progress at their respective offices. In addition, MIDAS advisors assisted the firms to qualify for various international certifications.

**Two Community Engagement Workshops Held in Herat and Mazar.** MIDAS advisors organized workshops on community engagement and business planning in the mining industry in Herat and Mazar-I-



Sharif) during this reporting period. The workshops aimed to educate the participants on the participatory planning process, mining development committees, community development agreements, job opportunities, conflict resolution, land rights, and the role of government in supporting private sector development in mining. Partnering stakeholders was a key aim of the workshop in order to facilitate a more cooperative environment for a mining industry. The MoMP played an active role in the workshops.

The MIDAS-organized mining awareness campaign has now been delivered in six provinces including Kabul, Badakhshan, Herat, Bamiyan, and Balkh.

- **Community Engagement Workshop in Mazar-e-Sharif.** A three-day workshop on community engagement and business planning in the mining industry was held in Mazar, Balkh province from December 7-9. Over 55 representatives from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, local communities, the Central Statistics Office and Small and Medium businesses participated.
  - **Community Engagement Workshop in Herat.** A three-day workshop on community engagement and business planning in the mining industry was held in Herat province from March 29-31. Over 55 representatives from the MoMP, local communities, civil society and small and medium-sized businesses participated. For many participants, it was the first time they had been educated on the mining sector.
- 2) **Civil Society and Community Engagement Strategy Complete.** The Civil Society and Community Engagement Strategy completed and confirmed by the Communications Directorate of the MoMP. It submitted to senior officials in the MoMP for approval.
- 3) **On-The-Job Training Complete for First Round of Participants from MoMP Communications Directorate.** MIDAS finished a three-month long training and mentoring program for four employees from the Communications and Public Relations Directorate of the MoMP. A series of trainings were held from January to March. The participants attended a mentoring session several times a week, with a strong emphasis on the practical application of skills. The trainings topics were ( Branding Training, Email Composition and Microsoft Outlook Training, Mining Knowledge (Mining Life Cycle), Presentation Skills, Report Writing, Fact Sheet Training, Photography, Filing System/Folder Organization and Meeting Planning.
- 4) **Financing the Mining Sector: A Business to Bank Matchmaking Event.** On February 17, a matchmaking event was held at the Kabul Star Hotel to partner banks with business from the mining sector in need of credit. Afghanistan Banks Association (ABA), USAID's Financial Access for Investing in the Development of Afghanistan (FAIDA) and Mining Investment and Development for Afghan Sustainability (MIDAS) projects organized the event. High-level participants included the head of the Afghanistan Banks Association, the Minister of Mines and Petroleum, Da Afghanistan Bank (DAB's) Acting Governor, and the Deputy Minister of Finance.

Nineteen banks and other financial institutions were on-site to meet with the roughly 55 representatives from mining sector businesses. The firms operate in a variety of areas including construction, geological analysis, transportation, and general services. Many are looking to win contracts in support of large mining projects (the mining value chain). The objective of the roundtable was to find ways to award loans to the mining sector. Mining-sector businesses struggle to acquire credit because banks often have little understanding of the industry and view the risks as being too high.

- 5) **Outline Developed for Five Percent Revenue Distribution Provision from Mining Sector.** MIDAS advisors developed an outline to implement a provision of the minerals law that stipulates that five

percent of revenues from mining be designated for local communities. The outline includes the needs of Afghanistan, the state structure, the authorities delegated between the national, provincial and local governments, budgeting, how the revenues could be disbursed, how to include the 5% provision in contracts, and other issues. The paper includes a desk review as well as several interviews with important civil society organizations working in the Afghan mining sector.

- 6) **Women Empowered in Mines Ministry.** MIDAS advisors supported the Gender Unit to deliver a women's rights seminar for 58 ministry employees including 41 women. Women historically marginalized from participating in the mining sector but there are many roles women can play. Participants completed a hands-on exercise to identify how woman can take part in the mining sector.
- 7) **Ministry Gender Unit Holds First Provincial Workshop.** With the support of MIDAS, the MoMP Gender Unit held its first gender awareness training workshop in Mazar-e-Sharif from September 13-14-2015. Over forty representatives from the Afghan Government-owned Mazar-e-Sharif Fertilizer and Power Plant, the provincial mines directorate and Afghan Geological Survey participated.
- 8) **AEITI Multi Sector Group Meeting.** MIDAS advisors attended two Afghanistan Extractives Industry Transparency Initiative (AEITI) Multi-Sector Group meetings and provided comments on documents related to international standards and their application to Afghanistan's mining sector. The AEITI aim to set benchmarks for transparency and community inclusion during natural resource extraction
  - **Comments Provided on AEITI Monitoring.** The AEITI sought comments from MIDAS advisors on a document entitled "Terms of Reference for an Independent Administrator." MIDAS advisors provided edits on how to better collect data and monitor progress against the AEITI benchmarks.
  - **Multi-stakeholder Group (MSG) Meeting.** MIDAS advisors provided the advisory notes on the MSG's terms of reference as well as ideas to increase revenue from the mining sector.

## 5. PROGRESS AGAINST KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

This section briefly describes progress against key performance indicators. MIDAS M&E plan defines indicators and targets for key component activities and key cross cutting activities. In total, there are five indicators set for period of October 2014 to September 2015 for three components as well as a Cross Cutting section.

Below is a brief summary of indicators' progress for each component and the Cross Cutting section from October 2014 to September 2015:

### Component I:

#### **1.1 Number of policies/ regulations/administrative procedures in development stages of analysis, drafting and consultation, legislative review, approval or implementation as a result of USG assistance.**

MIDAS was able to exceed the set target (4) for this indicator; MIDAS achieved five (125% achievement).

MIDAS advisors supported the MoMP' Legal Directorate to draft four new regulations and develop one regulation. These regulations are the Health and Safety Regulation, Technical Regulation, Financial Regulation, Contract Oversight Regulation and Mining Contracts Bidding Regulation.

#### **1.2. Number of mining contracts facilitated (reported by stage; drafted, reviewed or negotiated).**

MIDAS Component I exceeded the target 3 contracts facilitated by stage of drafted, reviewed and negotiated) of this indicator; MIDAS achieved 10.

MIDAS drafted five new contracts, reviewed three contracts and negotiated on two contract during this report period.

### Component II:

#### **2.1. Number of mineral projects explored, prepared and submitted to MoMP for tendering in line with international best practices.**

The target for FY 2015 for this indicator was set as One (1) mineral project to be Explored, Prepared and Submitted to MoMP for tendering in line with international best practices.

During the period, MIDAS did not achieve the target for this indicator because it needed more time to explore, prepare and submit mineral project package to MoMP.

### Component III:

#### **3.1. Number of communities around mining sites who received mining awareness training.**

The target for FY 2015 for this indicator was set as eight (8) communities around mining sites to improve their awareness on mining issues; MIDAS achieved this target.

MIDAS Component III conducted several awareness workshops and trainings for eight communities in Herat and Mazar provinces.

**3.2. Number of private sector firms that have improved management practices as a result of USG assistance.**

MIDAS exceeded the FY 2015 indicator target of 20 of private sector firms that have improved management practices; MIDAS achieved 50.

MIDAS component III achieved 50 with conducted 17 different topic trainings for these private sector firms in Kabul and provinces.

**Cross Cutting:**

**C1. Total number of person hours of administrators and officials successfully trained.  
(Output)**

MIDAS exceeded the target of 636 person hours of training for this indicator; MIDAS provided 7145 person hours trainings within 42 different topics trainings during this period.

All MIDAS training also had theoretical and practical sessions.

**C2. Percentage of government employees implementing practices/ actions to improve the performance on the job as a result of USG assistance.**

MIDAS exceeded the target of 20% government employees implementing practices and action to improve their performance; MIDAS achieved 86.7%.

The MIDAS M&E team conducted an assessment to assess percent government employees that they implemented their new knowledge and skills on daily tasks. The result of assessment showed 86.7% of government employees implemented their new knowledge and skills in their daily tasks.

## 6. SUMMARY OF KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS ACHIEVED

#	Performance Indicator	Type of Indicator	Target for FY2015	Disaggregated by	Unit	Baseline Value	Achieved (FY15)	Status
<b>Component 1: Reforming Mining Law and Regulation</b>								
1.1	Number of policies/regulations/administrative procedures in development stages of analysis, drafting and consultation, legislative review, approval or implementation as a result of USG assistance.	F	4	Stages-Analysis, drafts, completed, implemented	#	N/A	5	MIDAS Advisors supported MoMP Legal Directorate to draft 4 regulations and develop one regulation during this reporting period
1.2	Number of mining contracts facilitated (reported by stage; drafted, reviewed or negotiated).	Custom	3	Drafted, Reviewed or Negotiated	#	N/A	10	MIDAS Advisors supported MoMP Legal Directorate to draft 5 contracts, review 3 contracts and negotiate on 2 contracts during this reporting period
<b>Component 2: Strengthening Capacity at the MoMP</b>								
2.1	Number of mineral projects explored, prepared and submitted to MoMP for tendering in line with international best practices.	Custom	1	Type of Mineral Contract	#	N/A	0	Core drilling on granite project in Bamyan has been completed; NI 43-101 Technical Report prepared jointly by AGS and MIDAS. The Ministry refused to approve follow-on drilling projects and ultimately USAID de-obligated the remaining drilling funds. Editing and translation of the 43-101

								report continued into the 2016 fiscal year.
<b>Component 3: Supporting the Private Sector and Mining Project Development</b>								
3.1	Number of communities around mining sites who received mining awareness training.	Custom	8	Number of Communities	#	N/A	8	MIDAS conducted awareness workshop and training for 8 communities in Herat and Mazar provinces
3.2	Number of private sector firms that have improved management practices as a result of USG assistance.	Custom	20	Number of private sector	#	N/A	50	MIDAS conducted 17 different topic trainings for 50 private sector firms in Kabul and the provinces
<b>Cross-Cutting Indicator Result/Outcome</b>								
CI	Total number of person hours of administrators and officials successfully trained.	F	636	Number of males, females, type of training, and component	#	N/A	7,145 (Person Hours)	MIDAS Components I, II and III provided 42 different topic trainings that provided 7,145 person hours of trainings on different topics for MoMP and AGS technical staff during FY2015
C2	Percentage of government employees implementing practices/ actions to improve the performance on the job as a result of USG assistance.	Custom	20%	Male / Female	%	N/A	86.7%	The result came out based on a training assessment that conducted among a selected sample of MoMP and AGS employees trained by MIDAS in Kabul and provinces.
<b>Note:</b> The MIDAS Monitoring and Evaluation Plan set indicator targets from October 2014 to September 2016. The M&E plan 2015 submitted to USAID for review and approval but it did not approve until end of FY2015.								

## 7. CHALLENGES AND CONSTRAINTS

### Component I :

- The rule-making process for developing the regulations for the new Minerals Law has continued to experience a series of distractions. It has been difficult to keep the process moving forward at the same time that new amendments are in development for the Law. While the Law needs the amendments to better align to international best practices, the rule-making process should continue whether the amendments are passed or not. Unfortunately, many MoMP officials want to wait and modify the drafted regulations based on the amendments they hope will be adopted by Parliament.
- The TAPI project was previously managed by MoMP employees who are no longer with the Ministry. Thus, the Minister has sought the advice of MIDAS lawyers who are supporting the Legal Directorate. While MIDAS has attempted to avoid excessive involvement in this assignment, it is difficult to refuse request of the Minister to provide assistance. This is an important project for Afghanistan could be a source of hundreds of millions of dollars of revenue for the Afghan government in just a few years.
- Similar to TAPI, the Totimaidan Exploration and Production Sharing Contract is of an utmost concern for the Minister and the Afghan Government. To a large degree, the Minister looks to MIDAS to provide input. While the MIDAS lawyers have tried to limit their involvement in Totimaidan, it is challenging to deny a request of the Minister since there is negligible Ministry capacity to support the development of this contract.

### Component II :

- Despite Presidential approvals for use of the World Bank's Capacity Building for Results (CBR) salary top-offs, many key positions remain unfilled within the MoMP and AGS; currently, 23 out of 26 Director or Director General positions are vacant or are filled by acting / interim employees. Many critical MoMP Directorates, including the Afghan Petroleum Authority, have more than 50% of their authorized positions vacant.
- The mineral exploration direction and commodity focus of the project is still unclear. USAID is expected to meet with the Minister of Mines in October 2015 to manage his expectations with the program. This lack of clarity leads to uncertainty of planning for field activities, training requirements, budgets and schedules.
- The AGS field teams are not fully equipped or have outdated equipment that results in inaccurate data (e.g. old, outdated GPS units with low-level accuracy). A lengthy and complex procurement process, combined with MoMP / AGS preference for donors and implementing partners to purchase and donate such capital equipment (rather than the Ministry incorporating such requests into their operating or development budget) make it highly unlikely that much-needed new equipment will be procured during the remainder of the MIDAS project.

### Component III:

- MIDAS Advisors have been coordinating with relevant Directorates at MoMP to hand over the capacity-building package as part of the transition to MoMP ownership. It has not been without challenges as Directorates are reluctant to assume the responsibility. MIDAS is exploring the possibility of signing an MoU with the HR Directorate of MoMP to ensure a sustainable hand-off of the training materials is provided for the Ministry.

## 8. LESSONS LEARNED

- Good communication with the Ministry officials on the goals and scope of the project and getting their buy-in is key for the project's success. Broad participation and regular communication helps to manage expectations from the Ministry counterparts.
- Realistic targets need to be established considering the difficulties in working with the Ministry and AGS, particularly in regards to the wide variance in capacity amongst Tashkel staff. Often there are administrative delays in getting anything approved within the MoMP. This can add weeks or even months onto a task to complete.
- Greater effort should be made by USAID to mediate tasks requested by MoMP. Due to security concerns, it has been very challenging for USAID to hold joint meetings with the Ministry.
- Delays in passage of the new Minerals Law and the drawn-out process of amending the new Law has impacted the MIDAS project on many fronts; much could have been done by the Ministry in the intervening time.
- MIDAS has learned that working with AGS is problematic, and there should be sufficient political will within AGS to streamline activities with them, and ensure that AGS cooperates in terms of providing their personnel for field exploration.



## ANNEX I: LIST OF DELIVERABLES FY 2015

Deliverables Tracker Sheet				
#	Name of Deliverable	Date Submitted	Component #	Remarks
1	Monthly Report October 2014	05-Nov-2014	ALL	
2	Monthly Report November 2014	05-Dec-2014	ALL	
3	Monthly Report December 2014	05-Jan-2015	ALL	
4	Monthly Report January 2015	05-Feb-2015	ALL	
5	Monthly Report February 2015	05-Mar-2015	ALL	
6	Monthly Report March 2015	05-Apr-2015	ALL	
7	Monthly Report April 2015	05-May-2015	ALL	
8	Monthly Report May 2015	05-Jun-2015	ALL	
9	Monthly Report June 2015	05-Jul-2015	ALL	
10	Monthly Report July 2015	05-Aug-2015	ALL	
11	Monthly Report August 2015	05-Sep-2015	ALL	
12	Monthly Report September 2015	05-Oct-2015	ALL	
13	Quarterly Report Oct - December 2014	30-Jan-2015	ALL	
14	Quarterly Report January - March 2015	30-April-2015	ALL	
15	Quarterly Report April - June 2015	31-Jul - 2015	ALL	
16	Quarterly Report July - September 2015	30-Oct-2015	ALL	
17	New M&E Plan	26-Aug-2015	N/A	
18	Eric Podzorski STTA Trip Report	29-Sep-2015	N/A	
19	Gift Rukezo STTA Trip Report	February 2015	III	
20	Vincent White STTA Trip Report	February 2015	III	
21	Bill Cleary STTA Trip Report	February 2015	III	
22	Michael Kazemi Trip Report	1-October-2014	I	
23	Annual AO Level Report for FY 2014	13-October-2014	N/A	
24	Work Plan from October 2014 to March 2016	October 2014	ALL	

## ANNEX II: KEY ACTIVITIES ACCOMPLISHED DURING FY 2015

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
					Province	District	Village	Lat	Long
I	Four-day training on mineral contracts review and negotiations for nine legal advisors from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) in Istanbul from August 17-20 was jointly sponsored and funded by the U.S. Department of Commerce's Commercial Law Development Project (CLDP) and MIDAS.	To educate the legal advisors of MoMP on drafting of mining contracts.	Increased understanding of MoMP's legal advisors on how to draft mining contracts.	August 17-20, 2015	Istanbul, Turkey	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
I	10-day Study Tour to the US for Dr. Daud Saba, the Minister of Mines and Petroleum, on international best practices for mining.	To educate the minister on the best practices of mining and the importance of a private sector led mining sector for creating economic growth.	Increased understanding of the Minister on the best practices of mining and the importance of a private sector led mining sector for creating economic growth.	April and May 2015	Washington D.C., Colorado, Arizona, New York	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
I	MIDAS conducted a study tour to the United States of America from October 14-22. The delegation consisted of Members of Parliament, as well as officials from the Ministries of Justice and Mines and Petroleum.	To introduce the Afghan delegation to twenty-first century mining technology as well as the nature and process of regulating the industry for the benefit of the environment, workers' health and safety, and the communities in which mining occurs.	Participants learned that private investment is the key to attracting the large investments required by modern, capital-intensive processes, facilities, and technology	October 14-22, 2014	Colorado	Various	Various	Different locations	Different locations

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
					Province	District	Village	Lat	Long
I	Legal Advisors from the MoMP and MIDAS conducted six sessions on the new Minerals Law for all the directorates of the MoMP.	To inform all central and provincial employees of the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum about the new Minerals Law, and to enable them to better perform their duties in line with the new law.	Increased understanding of participants about the new Minerals Law	Various dates during FY 2015	Kabul	Kabul	Charahi Pashton istan MoMP	34.520381	69.181603
I	Legal Advisor of MIDAS conducted a session on the new Minerals Law for over 55 participants from the Ministry of Mines (MoMP) provincial office, small businesses, universities, mining development councils, and community leaders.	To inform the training participants about the new Minerals Law, and to enable them to better perform their duties in line with the new law.	Increased understanding of participants about the new Minerals Law	December 7-9, 2014	Balkh	Mazar-i-Sharif	Imperatory Baran Hotel	36.72350	67.10748
II	A MIDAS GIS Specialist undertook a 12-day (August 18-29) practical training for the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) Construction Team working in Takhar province on data capture, digital mapping and cross section generation.	The MIDAS GIS Specialist accompanied the AGS team into the field to teach them how to effectively capture data for input into GIS.	To empower the field team to use the data to generate maps and sections.	August 18-29, 2015	Takhar	Different locations	Different locations	N/A	N/A
II	Two-week long Shirbatu drilling exercise in Bamiyan to explore for a high-value granite deposit.	To gather core samples of a rock or mineral for analysis and provide hands-on training and instruction to AGS engineers in mineral sample chain of custody	The granite cores will be analyzed with the goal of preparing a package for tender of the area. Improved understanding of mineral sampling, core drilling, and sample chain of custody by AGS geologists.	April - May 2015	Bamiyan	Bamiyan City	Shahidan	Different locations	Different locations
II	Advanced GIS classes held for AGS staff held	To train AGS staff on the use of ArcGIS, the industry-standard Geologic Information Systems (GIS) software.	Improved knowledge and skills of participants on the use of GIS software for mineral exploration and other purposes.	Through out the quarter	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
					Province	District	Village	Lat	Long
II	A MIDAS geophysicist advisor accompanied the AGS Geophysics Team in Samangan Province in a field program that was held from July 21-August 31.	To manage the field activities as well as train AGS Geophysics Team in ground geophysics. The field program also involved practical exercises.	Geophysics team empowered to set up geophysical survey equipment and gather measurements.	July 21 - August 31, 2015	Samangan	Samangan	N/A	N/A	N/A
II	A MIDAS advisor mentored three lab technicians at the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS)	To train AGS lab technicians on the processing of rock samples collected from the Salang and Shibartu projects.	Increased skills of AGS lab technicians in processing rock samples	August 12 - Sept 6, 2015	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
II	Advanced GIS classes held for AGS staff held	To train AGS staff on the use of ArcGIS, the industry-standard Geologic Information Systems (GIS) software.	Improved knowledge and skills of participants on the use of GIS software for mineral exploration and other purposes	Through out March 2015	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
II	A week-long trip to Herat was completed to examine three potential mineral deposits including Sangilyan Barite, Char Olang Gypsum, and a limestone outcrop near the Herat airport.	The mission was undertaken MIDAS geologists to identify new exploration targets. The work was done taking in account the new geographical and commodity priorities of the MoMP Minister.	To determine if the area contains enough barite to develop a tender for mining.	June 2015	Herat	Different locations	Different locations	N/A	N/A
II	Training on mineral sample chain of custody processes, quality assurance and quality control.	To explain the concepts of mineral chain of custody and quality assurance/quality control to the AGS Industrial Minerals team.	Participants able to create control charts in Excel and Micromine, an essential process for quality control of mineral exploration data.	February 9, 2015	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
					Province	District	Village	Lat	Long
II	Economic Geology training for AGS staff	To familiarize participants with various ore deposit types, its deposition, exploration and economic value.	Increased understanding of the training participants of the topics being discussed	Through out March 2015	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
II	The AGS Industrial Minerals Field Team, with technical and logistic support from MIDAS project, conducted pre-drilling exploration work at the Salang tantalum project.	To prepare the tantalum project for further exploration, including drilling, and possible future tender	A detailed geological map of the area was developed, trenches dug and 91 samples collected	Multiple visits - Sept to Dec 2014	Parwan	Salang	Taghma	Different locations	Different locations
II	Advanced GIS classes held for AGS and APA staff held	To train AGS and APA staff on the use of ArcGIS 10.3, the industry-standard Geologic Information Systems (GIS) software.	Improved knowledge and skills of participants on the use of GIS software for mineral exploration and other purposes	On a regular basis in Oct – Dec 2014	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
III	A three-day workshop on community engagement and business planning in the mining industry was held for over 55 participants from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP) provincial offices, small businesses, universities, mining development councils, and community leaders.	To build a dialog between the stakeholders of mine development; mainly, citizens, local business, government, and the mining company.	Increased knowledge of participants on the benefits from mining, how to mitigate risk and avoid conflict by settling all details on paper in advance of mine development – in the form of community development agreements	Dec 7-9, 2014	Balkh	Mazar-i-Sharif	Imperatory Baran Hotel	36.72350	67.10748
III	On November 10th, MIDAS advisors from Components I, II, and III presented their planned activities for the next 18 months. The project work plans were developed with the full support and knowledge of the Minister, Deputy Ministers and other key ministry leaders.	To provide a forum to address any concerns or recommendations about project activities.	Improved understanding of MoMP officials regarding MIDAS activities planned during the option period I of the project	Nov 10, 2014	Kabul	Kabul	Charahi Pashton istan MoMP	34.520381	69.181603

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
					Province	District	Village	Lat	Long
III	Engineer Qadir Ali, Director of the Artisanal Small Mining Directorate at the Afghanistan Geological Survey, shared the lessons learned from his visit to the Kumtor Gold Mine in Kyrgyzstan with 30 officials from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum.	To share lessons learned from the study tour organized by MIDAS with MoMP officials and employees	Increased understanding of the MoMP employees regarding mining-related activities in Kyrgyzstan, especially community engagement in mining operations	Nov 24, 2014	Kabul	Kabul	Charahi Pashton istan MoMP	34.520381	69.181603
III	The Gender Unit of the MoMP launched its first gender awareness training workshop in Mazar-e-Sharif, with the support of MIDAS for over forty representatives from the Afghan Government-owned Mazar-e-Sharif Fertilizer and Power Plant, the provincial mines directorate and Afghan Geological Survey	To train participants on the importance of women involvement in the mining sector	Increased understanding of gender rights and empowerment.	Sept 13-14, 2015	Balkh	Mazar-e-Sharif	Imperatory Baran Hotel	36.72350	67.10748
III	Two AMEI training sessions were held at the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) for 13 representatives of private companies that are part of the AMEI program.	To improve the skills of small and medium-sized Afghan firms working in the mining value chain.	Afghan businesses empowered to be more competitive in the mining value chain.	Sept 1 & 16, 2015	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
III	During the quarter, three AMEI in-house mentoring sessions were held for 4 representatives of private companies that are part of the AMEI program.	To improve the practical skills of small and medium-sized Afghan firms working in the mining value chain.	Afghan businesses empowered to be more competitive in the mining value chain.	July 13, Aug 23 & Sept 13,, 2015	Kabul	Kabul	N/A	N/A	N/A
III	MIDAS advisors delivered a three-day workshop on mining awareness in Herat to more than 60 representatives from Ministry of Mines and Petroleum, Afghan Geological Survey, local community, civil society, university students and small and medium-sized businesses.	To educate participants on the participatory planning process, community development agreements, job opportunities, land rights, and the role of government in supporting private sector development	Increased understanding of participants about the topics discussed in the workshop	August 10-12, 2015	Herat	Herat	Istiqlal Hotel	34.34773	62.21945

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
					Province	District	Village	Lat	Long
III	Eight AMEI trainings were held at the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) for over 20 business owners and government officials from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP).	To improve the skills of 25 small and medium-sized Afghan firms working in the mining value chain.	Afghan businesses empowered to be more competitive in the mining value chain.	On a regular basis throughout the quarter	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
III	A two-day workshop on mining awareness and private sector development for 70 small business owners, community leaders, and government officials was held in Mazar-I-Sharif.	To educate participants on the participatory planning process, community development agreements, job opportunities, land rights, and the role of government in supporting private sector development	Increased understanding of participants about the topics discussed in the workshop	May 19-20, 2015	Balkh	Mazar-e-Sharif	Imperatory Baran Hotel	36.72350	67.10748
III	Gender Unit training for 58 ministry employees including 41 women.	To train participants on the importance of women involvement in the mining sector	Increased understanding of gender rights and empowerment.	May 31, 2015	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
III	Workshop held at the Afghanistan Geological Survey (AGS) for over 20 business owners and government officials from the Ministry of Mines and Petroleum (MoMP).	To improve the skills of 25 small and medium-sized Afghan firms working in the mining value chain.	Afghan businesses empowered to be more competitive in the mining value chain.	Long Term Activity	Kabul	Kabul	Maslakh AGS	34.529147	69.19845
III	A three-day workshop on community engagement and business planning in the mining industry was held in Herat province	To educate participants on the participatory planning process, community development agreements, job opportunities, land rights, and the role of government in supporting private sector development	Increased understanding of participants about the topics discussed in the workshop	March 29-31, 2015	Herat	Herat	Muafaq Hotel	34.34901	62.19573

Project Component	Activity Description	Target of Activity	Expected Outcome of Activity	Dates of Activity	Location Information				
					Province	District	Village	Lat	Long
III	MIDAS finished a three-month long training and mentoring program for four employees from the Communications and Public Relations Directorate of the MoMP.	To train employees of Communications and Public Relations Directorate of MoMP on topics identified following an in-person two-day assessment conducted by MIDAS communications advisors in December 2014.	Increased understanding on different communications topics and their improved performance. The trainings are set to culminate with the production of several templates and guides for presentations, meeting planning, and email writing.	January-March 2015	Kabul	Kabul	Charahi Pashton istan MoMP	34.52038 I	69.181603